

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

In addition, the documentary is clearly biased and one-sided - numerous people including Republican senator John McCain have said that Kerry's opposition to the war did not truly effect POWs and McCain himself was POW for years - yet the documentary makes it seem Kerry being opposed to the war was really a problem. Also, there were in fact atrocities that took place in Vietnam so to act like they didn't occur is also misinformation.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.